

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-6 and 8-20 as shown in the complete list of claims that is presented below.

1. (currently amended) A receiver for a spread spectrum communication system comprising:

an acquiring circuit that periodically acquires in synchronization a plurality of signals received via a plurality of different paths ~~different in route~~ from a transmitter;

a plurality of tracking circuits that respectively track in synchronization a predetermined number of signals from among the plurality of signals acquired by the acquiring ~~circuit, respectively;~~ circuit;

a judging circuit that judges whether present propagation ~~condition~~ conditions and past propagation ~~condition~~ conditions of the predetermined signals tracked by the plurality of tracking circuits are good or bad; and

a selecting circuit that selects the predetermined number of signals from the plurality of signals acquired by the acquiring circuit, based upon the present propagation condition and the past propagation condition of the ~~signal~~ signals judged by the judging circuit, to allow the plurality of tracking circuits to track the predetermined number of signals selected by the selecting circuit.

2. (currently amended) A receiver as set forth in claim 1, wherein when a signal tracked by a tracking circuit at ~~the~~ a previous cycle coincides with a signal acquired by the acquiring circuit at ~~the~~ a present cycle, the judging circuit judges that

the present propagation condition of ~~the~~ a signal tracked by the tracking circuit is good.

3. (currently amended) A receiver as set forth in claim 1, wherein when a signal tracked by a tracking circuit at ~~the~~ a present cycle was acquired by the acquiring circuit a plurality of times at cycles prior to the present ~~eyeles;~~ cycle, the judging circuit judges that the past propagation condition of the signal tracked by the tracking circuit was good.

4. (currently amended) A receiver as set forth in claim 1, wherein when the predetermined number of signals tracked by the plurality of tracking circuits at ~~the~~ a previous cycle each do not coincide with any of the plurality of signals acquired by the acquiring circuit at ~~the~~ a present cycle, the selecting circuit allows at least one of the plurality of tracking circuits to continue tracking at the present cycle one of the predetermined number of signals that the one of the plurality of tracking circuits tracked at the previous cycle, based upon the past propagation condition of the predetermined number of signals.

5. (currently amended) A receiver as set forth in claim 4, wherein the selecting circuit allows one of the plurality of tracking circuits that tracked at the previous cycle one of the predetermined number of signals that was the best among the predetermined number of signals, to continue tracking at the present cycle the one of the predetermined number signals.

6. (currently amended) A receiver as set forth in claim 4, wherein when the past propagation ~~condition~~ conditions of the predetermined number of signals were similar to each other at the previous cycle, the selecting circuit allows one of the plurality of tracking ~~circuit~~ circuits to continue tracking at the present cycle one of the predetermined number of signals based upon a power value of the predetermined number of signals.

7. (original) A receiver for a spread spectrum communication system comprising:

an acquiring unit that periodically acquires a plurality of signals received via a plurality of different paths from a transmitter; and a plurality of tracking units that track the plurality of signals acquired by the acquiring unit, respectively,

wherein the acquiring unit allows one tracking unit to continue acquiring the signal that the tracking unit is tracking, and allows the other tracking units to commence tracking the signals that the acquiring unit newly acquires, upon judging there is no signal common to all the signals that the tracking units are tracking and all the signals that the acquiring unit newly acquires.

8. (currently amended) A receiver as set forth in claim 7,

wherein the tracking units each include a first flag and a second flag, the first flag being used to indicate that the probability is large that the signal that the

~~respective tracking signal unit is tracking~~ is not a noise ~~is large when~~ if the signal that the tracking unit is tracking coincides with a signal that the acquiring unit newly acquires, and the second flag being used to indicate that the signal that the tracking unit is tracking is not a signal that the acquiring unit has newly ~~acquires when~~ acquired if the signal that the tracking unit is tracking is not a signal that the acquiring unit newly acquires, and

wherein when all the first flags each indicate that the probability is low, the acquiring unit allows ~~the a tracking unit corresponding to the~~ whose second flag that indicates the signal that the respective tracking unit is tracking is not a signal that ~~the acquiring unit newly acquires,~~ has been newly acquired to continue tracking the signal that the tracking unit is tracking.

9. (currently amended) A receiver as set forth in claim 8,

wherein when a first plurality of second ~~flags~~ flags, among the plurality of second ~~flags~~ flags, indicate the signals that the respective tracking ~~unit~~ units are tracking are not signals that the acquiring unit has newly ~~acquires,~~ acquired, the acquiring unit allows the respective tracking ~~unit~~ units ~~corresponding to one of the first plurality of second flags~~ units to continue tracking the ~~signal that the tracking unit is~~ signals they have been tracking.

10. (currently amended) A receiver as set forth in claim 9,  
wherein the acquiring unit judges ~~the allowance of the~~ whether to allow  
tracking continuation based upon the ~~powers~~ power of the signals that the tracking  
units are tracking.

11. (currently amended) A receiver as set forth in claim 8,  
wherein when all the second flags ~~each~~ indicate ~~that the signal~~ signals that the  
tracking ~~unit is~~ units are tracking ~~is a signal~~ are signals that the acquiring unit ~~newly~~  
~~acquires,~~ has newly acquired, the acquiring unit allows one tracking unit to continue  
tracking the signal that the respective tracking unit is tracking.

12. (currently amended) A receiver as set forth in claim 11,  
wherein the acquiring unit judges ~~the allowance of the~~ whether to allow  
tracking continuation based upon the ~~powers~~ power of the signals that the tracking  
units are tracking.

13. (currently amended) A synchronization acquiring apparatus comprising:  
a plurality of synchronization tracking circuits;  
a plurality of first flags flags, each provided for corresponding to a respective  
one of said synchronization tracking circuits, each of the first flags being brought into a  
flag-off condition upon initiation of a synchronization acquiring operation and into a  
flag-on condition when a synchronizing position of a reception response agrees with a

synchronizing position being tracked by a the corresponding one of said synchronizing tracking circuits; and

a plurality of second flag flags, each ~~provided for~~ corresponding to a respective one of said synchronization tracing circuits, each of the second flags being brought into the flag-on condition when a synchronizing position is allocated to a the corresponding one of said synchronization tracking circuits and into the flag off condition when the synchronizing position of the reception response agrees with the synchronizing position being tracked by a the corresponding one of said synchronizing tracking circuits during a subsequent synchronization acquiring operation, each of the second flags being kept in the flag-off condition until the synchronizing position is allocated to a the corresponding one of said synchronization tracking circuits.

14. (currently amended) A synchronization acquiring apparatus as set forth in claim 13, further comprising first allocation inhibit synchronization tracking circuit selecting means for selecting one of said synchronization tracking circuits specified by the second flags that are in the flag-off condition when the first flags are all in the flag-off ~~condition~~ condition, and for defining the selected synchronization tracking circuit as an allocation inhibit synchronization tracking circuit ~~to have the selected synchronization tracking circuit continue~~ that continues to track synchronization.

15. (currently amended) A synchronization acquiring apparatus as set forth in claim 13, further comprising second allocation inhibit synchronization tracking circuit selecting means for selecting one of said synchronization tracking circuits

specified by the second flags that are in the flag-on condition when the first flags are all in the flag-off ~~condition~~ condition, and for defining the selected synchronization tracking circuit as an allocation inhibit synchronization tracking circuit ~~to have the selected synchronization tracking circuit continue~~ that continues to track synchronization.

16. (currently amended) A synchronization acquiring apparatus as set forth in 13, further comprising:

first allocating synchronization tracking circuit selecting means for selecting one of said synchronization tracking circuits that is at rest as an allocating synchronization tracking circuit which is to track a new synchronizing ~~position;~~ position, if at least one synchronization tracking circuit is at rest;

second allocating synchronization tracking circuit for selecting one of said synchronization tracking circuits that is operating and specified by ~~the~~ having its first flag in the flag-off condition as ~~the~~ an allocating synchronization tracking circuit ~~when there is said circuit, if at least one synchronization tracking circuit specified by the~~ is operating and has its first flag ~~that is~~ in the flag-on condition; and

third allocating synchronization tracking circuit for selecting one of said synchronization tracking circuits that is operating and not the allocation inhibit synchronization tracking circuit as the allocating synchronization tracking circuit.

17. (currently amended) A synchronization acquiring apparatus as set forth in claim 13, further comprising third allocation inhibit synchronization tracking circuit

selecting means for ~~selecting~~ selecting, from said synchronization tracking circuits specified by the second flags in the flag-off condition when the first flags are all in the flag-off ~~condition~~ condition, one showing the greatest tracked correlation power as the allocation inhibit synchronization tracking circuit to ~~have the selected synchronization tracking circuit continue~~ that continues to track synchronization.

18. (currently amended) A synchronization acquiring apparatus as set forth in claim 13, further comprising fourth allocation inhibit synchronization tracking circuit selecting means for ~~selecting~~ selecting, from said synchronization tracking circuits specified by the second flags in the flag-on condition when the first flags are all in the flag-off condition and the second flags are in the flag-on ~~condition~~ condition, one showing the greatest tracked correlation power as the allocation inhibit synchronization tracking circuit to ~~have the selected synchronization tracking circuit continue~~ that continues to track synchronization.

19. (currently amended) A synchronization acquiring apparatus as set forth in claim 13, further comprising:

first allocating synchronization tracking circuit selecting means for selecting one of said synchronization tracking circuits that is at rest as an allocating synchronization tracking circuit which is to track a new synchronizing ~~position;~~ position, if at least one synchronization tracking circuit is at rest;

second allocating synchronization tracking circuit for selecting one of said synchronization tracking circuits that is operating and specified by ~~the~~ having its first



flag in the flag-off condition as ~~the~~ an allocating synchronization tracking ~~circuit when~~  
~~there is said circuit~~, if at least one synchronization tracking circuit ~~specified by the~~ is  
operating and has its first flag ~~that is~~ in the flag-on condition; and

~~fourth~~ a further allocating synchronization tracking circuit for ~~selecting~~  
selecting, from said synchronization tracking circuits that are operating and not  
defined as the allocation inhibit synchronization tracking ~~circuit as circuit~~, the  
allocating synchronization tracking circuit ~~one~~ showing the smallest tracked correlation  
power as the allocating synchronization tracking circuit.

20. (currently amended) A receiver for a spread spectrum communication  
system provided with an acquiring circuit that cyclically acquires synchronization of a  
plurality of signals received via multiple paths from a transmitter, ~~with a spread code~~  
~~provided~~ in the receiver, and a plurality of tracking circuits that track a given number  
~~of ones~~ of the plurality of signals acquired by the acquiring circuit for demodulation,  
the receiver comprising:

a judging circuit that judges whether propagation conditions of the given  
number of signals in a first cycle and in a second ~~one~~ cycle of a plurality of cycles  
~~previous to the first cycle~~ are higher than a given quality level or ~~not~~; not, the second  
cycle following the first cycle; and

a selecting circuit that, when the judging circuit judges a propagation condition  
of one of the given number of signals in at least one of the first cycle and the second  
cycle is not higher than the one signal that the tracking circuits should track in the first  
cycle, from the plurality of signals.